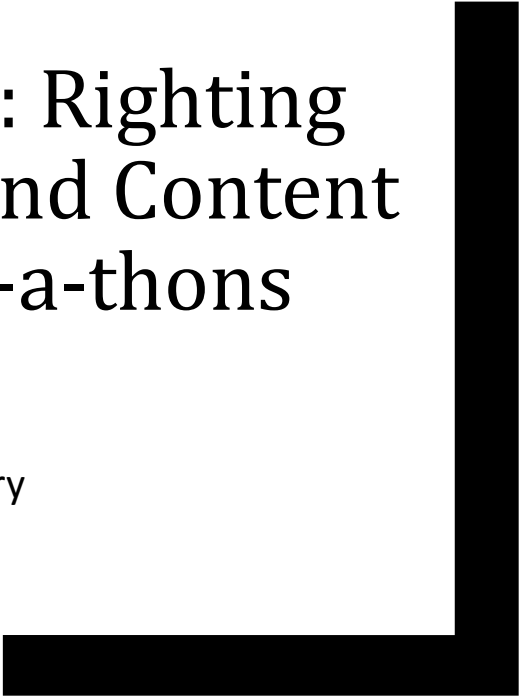




Wikipedia And The Library: Righting The Imbalance Of Creators And Content Through Community Edit-a-thons

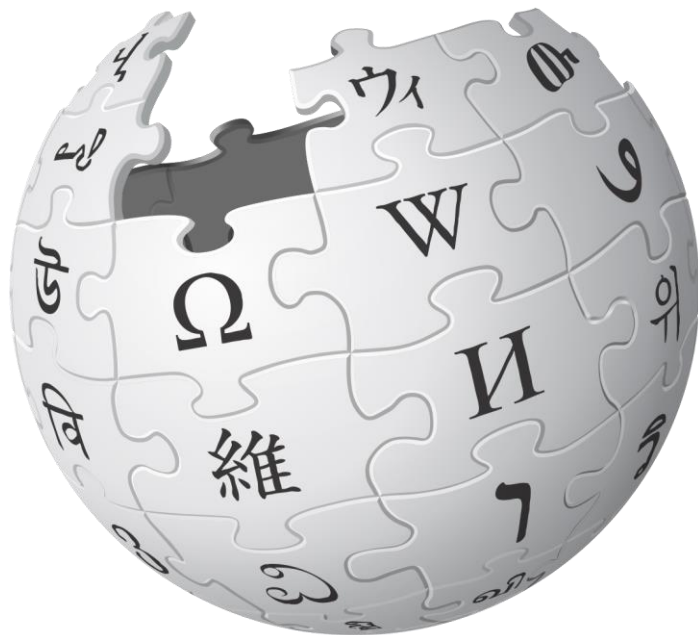
Carolyn Doi & Suzanne Rackover
CAPAL Conference, University of Calgary
May 29, 2016



Outline

- Introduction
- Lit Review
- History of Art+Feminism Movement
- Why are libraries getting involved?
- Planning and running an edit-a-thon
- Survey results
- Discussion

Introduction



Lit Review

“If women make up half the users of [Wikipedia] but only represent a tiny fraction of its contributors, women are allowing themselves to be written out of history, all topics, knowledge itself.”

Jennifer C. Edwards
“Wiki Women: Bringing Women Into Wikipedia through Activism and Pedagogy”
The History Teacher, v. 48, no. 3. May 2015.

History of the Art+Feminism Movement



<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Meetup/ArtAndFeminism>

Art+Feminism edit-a-thons worldwide



<http://art.plusfeminism.org/edit-a-thons/>

Art+Feminism Edit-a-thon Global Outcomes

2014

- 31 Locations
- 600 participants
- 101 new articles
- 90 articles improved

2015

- 75 locations
- 17 countries
- 1500 participants
- 400 new articles
- 500 articles improved

2016

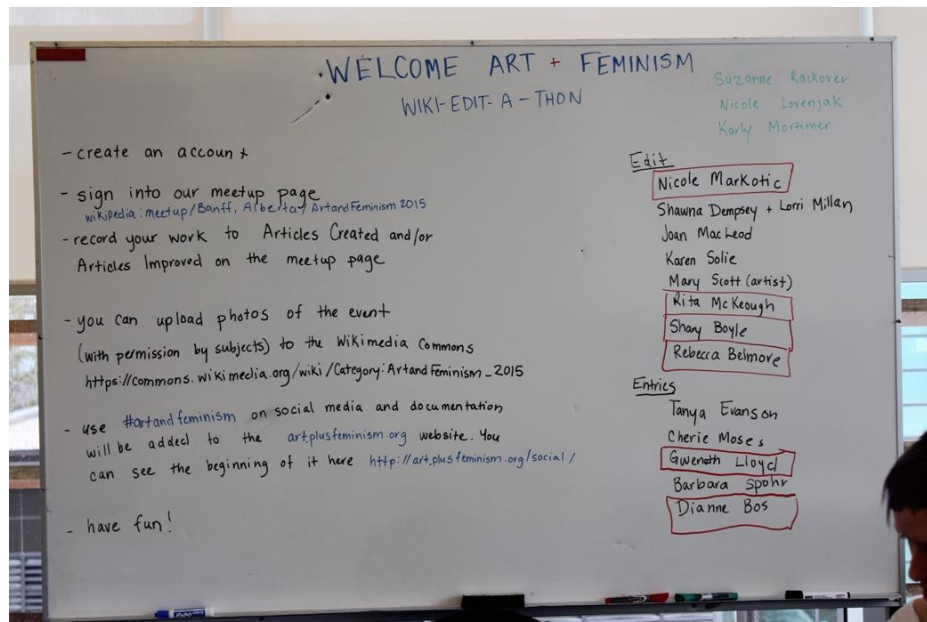
- 175 locations
- 28 countries
- 2500 participants
- 2000 new articles
- 1000 articles improved

Why are libraries getting involved?

- Students use Wikipedia for research
- Librarians support open access
- Libraries provide access to research materials



Planning and running an edit-a-thon



What we did

Saskatoon Public Library



Banff Centre Library



What we did

Saskatoon

- Day-long event at the Saskatoon Public Library
- 12 participants
- 13 articles newly created
- 1 article updated
- 1 draft article written

Banff

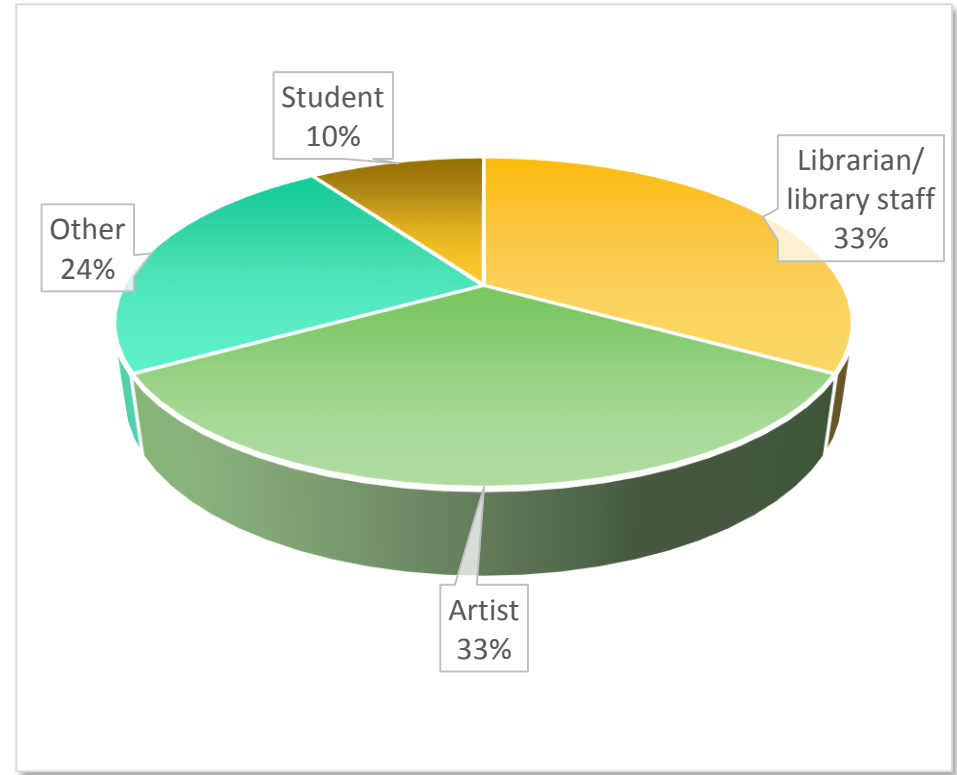
- Day-long event at the Banff Centre Library
- 5 participants
- 3 articles improved
- 2 articles newly created

Survey design

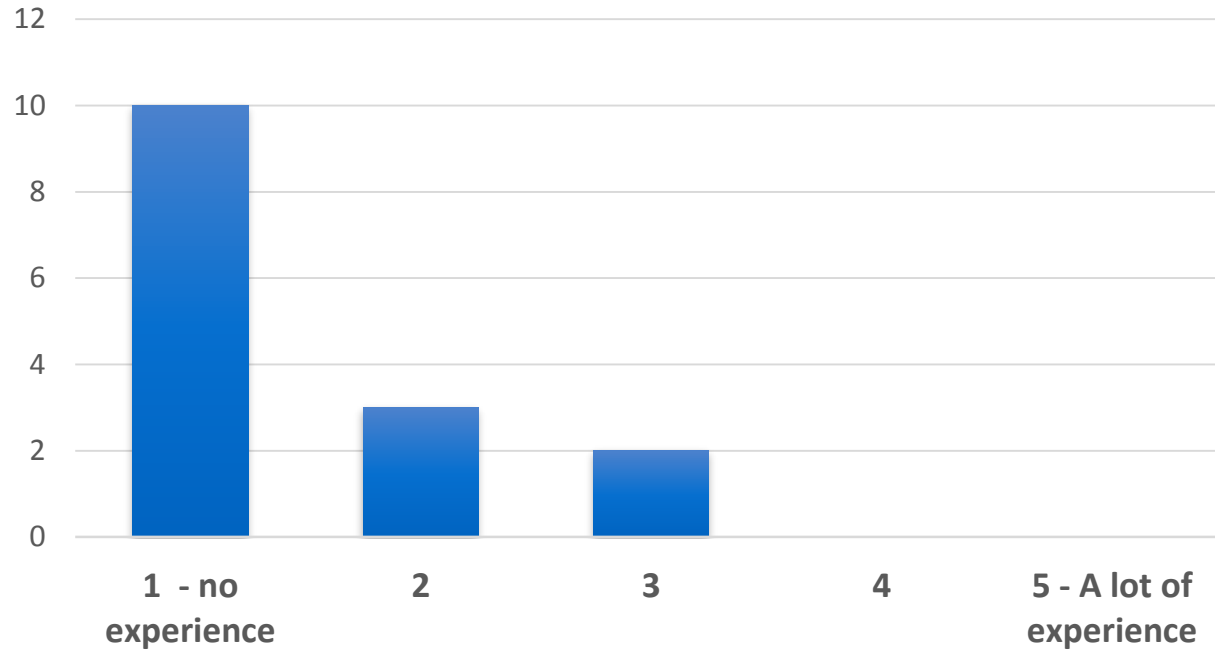
- Basic data collected in wikipedia [meetup pages](#)
- Designed a more detailed survey to capture:
 - *Profile of participants*
 - *Impact of the edit-a-thon on comfort and likelihood that the individual might continue editing after the event*
 - *Feedback on the logistical elements of the day*

Survey results

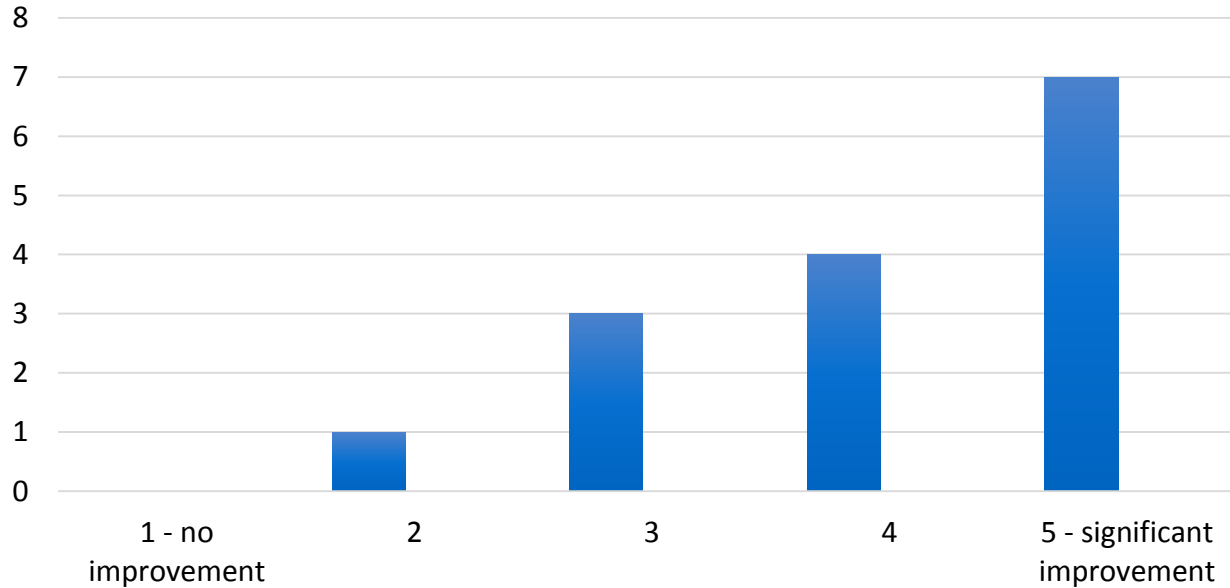
- Paper and electronic versions of the survey distributed following the event
- Response rate: 88.24% (15 / 17)



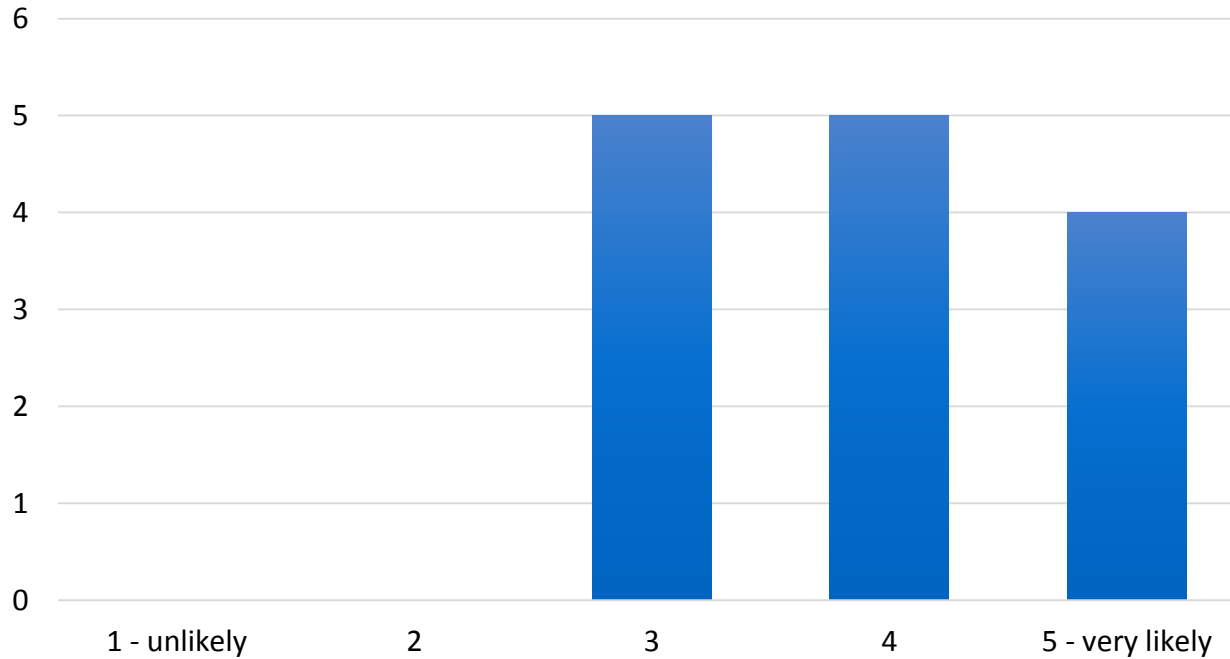
How much experience did you have with Wikipedia editing before this event?



How much did your confidence with editing in Wikipedia improve as a result of this event?



How likely are you to continue editing in Wikipedia after this event?



Discussion

- Managing expectations
- How to ensure articles stick
- Avoiding flags for deletion

“I can add all kinds of things to male YA authors’ pages with minimal cites and no one says a word. Whereas, every time I try to add a female YA author, or contribute to their pages, I invariably end up with some obnoxious gatekeeper complaining that my cites from Publisher’s Weekly and School Library Journal aren’t NEARLY enough, and besides, this author isn’t SIGNIFICANT enough to have an entry, who cares if she published three books? They’re not NOTEWORTHY. Meanwhile, 1-Book Nobody Dude’s Wikipedia page is 14 printable pages long.”

From a discussion at Metafilter titled [Wikipedia, Snips & Snails, Sugar & Spice?](#)

Where do we go from here?

"I didn't solve it. We didn't solve it. The Wikimedia Foundation didn't solve it. The solution won't come from the Wikimedia Foundation."

- Sue Gardner, Executive Director of the Wikimedia Foundation

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